



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927
Fairfax, VA 22035-1118



For Immediate Release

Judy Pedersen, PIO
E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov
Press Inquiries: 703-324-8662

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Park Resource Management Division Honors Volunteers

The Fairfax County Park Authority honored several Resource Management Division volunteers with a 2007 Volunteer Excellence Award at recent ceremonies held at Green Spring Gardens. This award recognizes their contributions to the interpretation and stewardship of Fairfax County's natural and cultural resources.

Kathi McNeil, of Alexandria, VA is an energetic, talented volunteer who wears many hats at Huntley Meadows Park. Her passion for the natural world is demonstrated by her active role in the park's interpretive services, educational programs and resource management activities during the past nine years. With a science and teaching background she can ably monitor park bluebirds as well as capture a school group's interest during a program about birds, forests or wetlands.

For seven years Carol Porter, a resident of Arlington, has been vital to Hidden Oaks Nature Center's programs and customer service. She is a friendly voice and familiar face, competently answering questions, giving directions and taking program registrations. Twice a week she welcomes visitors and works to keep the center attractive and safe – organizing the front desk and sales area, providing exhibit upkeep, tidying the children's area and making suggestions for improved service and safety. With sharp organizational skills Carol ensures the site's volunteer and program data is accurate, and with creativity she prepares program materials and crafts.

Vienna, Virginia's Barbara Raymond is a skilled gardener who has filled Colvin Run Mill Historic Site with color, fragrance and texture for the past eight years. Equipped with a green thumb, an ability to guide others and work with a tight budget, she has been integral in the planning, development and maintenance of the site's multiple gardens. With vigorous transplanting, solicitation of donated plants and careful tending, Barbara has created attractive gardens for visitors to enjoy. With equal enthusiasm she supports site events, ensuring success with valuable suggestions and guidance for other volunteers.

The Volunteer Excellence Awards reception is generously supported by BB&T.

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703-324-8700 • TTY: 703-803-3354 • ONLINE: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks • E-MAIL: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov



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